TIMES-VIRGINIAN

In The Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt

Appomattox, Virginia

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PARKING JAM AT HOLLIDAY LAKE

The Times-Virginian sympathizes with those who, seeking relief from one of the warmest waves in recent years, journey toward the cool and beauty of Holliday Lake, only to get into a tremendous traffic jam and spend much of one's available time not in the shade or on the beach, but trying to find parking space!

Holliday Lake has growing pains! It is more of an attraction than its designers anticipated. Many additional hundreds would go there but for the fact that "the word gets around" when facilities are inadequate.

We sympathize with those who get into the traffic jams, but also we appreciate the position of those in authority over the management of this recreational area. It is not always possible for government departments to move as swiftly as private business. Need can be shown, but it requires time for solutions to be worked out and executed. We believe in the desire of the state to improve Holliday Lake and we believe that it will be improved.

But that does not help the situation, in the light of the nearness of July 4 and the peak week-ends of the summer season.

This newspaper sees no reason why the state should not grant a parking lot concession at Holliday Lake. Already there is a concession for soft drinks, etc, and a place to park one's car is just as important as a bottle of pop. We believe that a twenty-five cent parking lot fee, would justify leveling off and covering with gravel and supervising with attendants, a sufficient space to take care of potential as well as immediate needs.

A point to be thought about is that everyone who goes to Holliday Lake drives at least 15 miles just to get there; many drive 50. That means that the average round-trip mileage of the people at the lake is at least fifty miles. And a class of patron willing to drive fifty miles for a picnic outing, would not object to paying a quarter for a convient parking facility, with attendant.

The state has recently improved the beach at Holliday with new white sand from the Atlantic seashore. That, plus the lack of alternate bathing spots, plus a peak hot spell of weather, all added up to a traffic jam. And it also trup that more parking space will mean more picnic tables and more bath house facilities, and more of everything! But, so what—that is what the lake is for: a recreation spot in central Virginia! Let it boom!

SUMMER SOLTICE

(The New York Times)

Agreement is sadly lacking in the northern world regarding the time of summer's beginning and of its halfway stage. In general, popular almanacs nowadays start the season off with, stop - watch precision on the instant of the summer solstice — the sun stand—when the solar disk attains its greatest northern declination and pauses a split second before beginning its long backward slide toward Capricorn and winter. Not so, say those who measure summer by its light rather than by its heat. In their view, June 21 or 22 is the middle rather than the beginning of summer. Feeling in most countries seems to run against them, for the weather, of which the public is so keenly conscious, notoriously lags a month behind the sun.

This year the soltice falls on June 22 in Europe and eastern America while the day is still young. The spinning of the earth has not yet carried our western states across the midnight line, so the date is June 21 with them. It might surprise many of us, if we could visit Sweden or Norway near the soltice, to find the inhabitants making merry in celebration of Midsummer's Day, which by ancient custom is June 24, a day also linked with the name of St. John the Baptist. At night fires are lighted in the mountains in other parts of Europe.

In northern Scandinavia, above the Artic Circle, the phenomenon of the midnight at soltice time is a seasonal clock which seems to divide summer, if not the whole year, into two parts. It is the annual period of climax, when light scores its greatest victory over darkness. It is hard to regard such a time as the beginning of a season which to all appearances has reached its height; but most of us have had no acquaintance with the midnight sun, or even with the endless subartic twilights which virtually abolish night in June.

Homemakers' Items

If you are storing clothes at home for the summer, you'll be interested in these suggestions from J. O. Rowell, entomologist at V. P. I.

To protect woolen garments stored in an ordinary closet which will be in frequent use, spray a commercial five per cent DDT solution on closet walls, baseboards, on the floor, or on other surfaces where insects may be developing, or where they will come in contact with the DDT deposit that is left after the liuid has evaporated. It won't be necessary to spray the closet very often, as the DDT solution is effective for several weeks to several months.

When closet walls have been sprayed, moth adults or larvae crawling over the treated surfaces will be killed. However, since DDT has no fumigating effect, larvae in untreated clothing will not be killed. To treat clothing, spray lightly, all over the fabric on both sides, with five per cent DDT solution. Some products are made especially for fabrics and do not cause stains.

Articles stored in trunks, chests or a wooden box that is reasonably tight can be protected during the summer by scattering either flake naphthalene or paradichlorobenzene between the folds of clothing, or preferably between sheets of thin paper. Keep all covers tightly closed.

Novel Feature Dixie Caverns

Salem, June 27.- Scientifi interest which has been turned on the geological aspects of Dixie Caverns here since the first white settlers pushed their way into Southwest Virginia has shifted, temporarily at least, to the biological with the discovery of a new species of salamander.

"Although representing a new species," says James A Folwler of the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelpia, "this salamander is of particular interest because of the large size of the population inhabiting Dixie Caverns. As many as 322 salamanders have been counted, and this represents the largest aggregation of a plothodontid salamander yet recorded." The species has been given the name "Plothodon dixii" after the caverns in which it was discovered.

Popular interest, however, remains focused on the variety of formations and the beauty of coloring effected by geological processes through millions of years. Surface and underground waters still continue their slow but unrelenting masonry of building stalagmites and stalactites by dissolving the soluble limestone with carbonic acids and leaving tiny deposits of lime from each drop on the floors and ceilings.

Dixie Caverns, located just south of Salem directly on U. S. 11 which runs the length of the great Valley of Virginia, contain the largest unsupported calcite arch in any cave in this part of the country. Its largest chamber is a great gallery known as "The Cathedral," towering more than eighty feet from its lower level to its stalactitite studded dome.

But the feature that catches the fancy of the great majority of visitors, says the Virginia Travel Council, it not the vastness of the chambers but the tiny crystal-clear lake named the "Magic Mirror." This is a table-high piecrust formation four to 12 inches deep with a 200-gallon capacity. In it the countless stalactites above are reflected into a thousand objects quite realistic, including the city skyline, the village church, the battleship and many others.The established route through the Caverns is from one-half to three-fourths of a mile long and takes approximately 45 minutes to make the trip.

As in other caverns in the Valley of Virginia, the temperature remains an even 56 degrees even on the hottest summer day, a condition welcomed by visitors—and apparantly well suited to the habits of Dixie's own species of salamander. Scientists have not yet offered an explanation of their preference for

Dixie Caverns over others in area.

Precautions are being taken by the management of the caverns to protect this unique portion for further study is planned.

Strike ties up Little Gian traffic.

Malik said to intend to visit Russia July 6.

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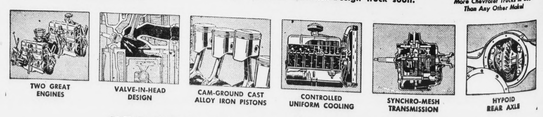

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Rocks

Rocks, June 26.- Farmers are busy working tobacco, cutting hay and now combining wheat is also at hand.

Deepest sympathy is extended to Percy Carter in the loss of his father, Mrs. Birda Carter June 16.

Mrs. Jim Frank Ranson had the mumps last week.

Mrs. D. R. Inge spent last Sunday night in the home of O. C. Paulette.

Mrs. J. A. Garrett, of Evergreen has returned home after spending a week with her sister, Mrs. John Jackson, of Glenn Allen, Va.

Mrs. and Mrs. L. C. Elder attended the funeral of Mrs. Eva H. Woodson of Madisonville last Saturday.

Quite a few attended the prayer meeting at church on Wednesday night.

Mrs. D. R. Inge spent a few days last week with Mrs. O. C. Paulette.

A sad gloom was cast over our community Thursday night, when news came that our beloved friend, O. C. Paulette had passed away. Deepest sympathy is extended to his dear wife and children.

Mrs. E. C. Baldwin was quite ill again Thursday and Friday.

Miss Ada Ferguson, who has been with Mrs. E. C. Baldwin for some time was moved to the home of Mrs. Carl Shelton last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Roach, of Lynchburg were supper guests of Mrs. W. F. Ranson and Mr. and Mrs. Jim Frank Ranson Thursday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Ranson and children, of Norfolk are spending a few days here.

Elbert Dinkins, of Crewe was in the neighborhood awhile Saturday.

Quite a few from here attended the funeral of O. C. Paulette at Evergreen Saturday afternoon.

Mrs. Holmsey Inge, Sr., of Appomattox spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ranson.

Misses Mary Edith and Ruth Ranson accompanied their grandmother, Mrs. Holmsey Inge, Sr., to Appomattox Sunday afternoon, where they will spend this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Roach and Stanley and Johnny spent Sunday with Mrs. D. R. Inge.

Mr. and Mrs. Toby Inge and Audrey Dale spent Sunday at Evergreen with Mrs. J. A. Garrett.

Stonewall

Stonewall, June 26.- We surely do hope we will have a shower to cool off things a little.

All of the children of Mrs. Henry Drinkard gathered at the home of her son, Clayton last Sunday to celebrate her birthday. All of her grandchildren were present, too, except two who were too far away to come. A picnic dinner was served on the lawn. A big birthday cake was in the center of the table. They had as their guests Mr. and Mrs. Max Stone, of Dover, Md.; Mrs. V. R. Burnett and son, Dick; E. C. Drinkard and Mrs. Helen Luck, of Lynchburg. All had a wonderful time and wish for this fine lady many happy returns of the day.

The Alvis reunion was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Caldwell last Sunday, with a large attendance and a picnic dinner.

Mrs. Florence Carson has returned to the home of Mrs. C. M. Stratton after visiting friends at Concord.

The Vacation Bible School has closed at Hebron and Trinity churches, and the commencement was held at each church last Sunday morning. Each church had a good attendance.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Moore and children, of Brookneal spent the week-end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Moore.

Mr. and Mrs. Vinson Russell and children, of Richmond spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Thomas.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Braford and children spent the week-end with his parents at Natural Bridge.

Mrs. Harmon Jennings celebrated her brother's birthday, Edd Perdieu, last Sunday at her home with a picnic dinner and lots of kin and friends to enjoy it.

W. C. Caldwell and children, of Newark, N. J., were guests of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Caldwell last week-end. Mr. Caldwell has returned home, but the three children will spend the summer with their grandparents.

The many friends of Mr. Rob Thornhill are happy to know that he was able to be at Sunday School last Sunday.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Jennings, of Richmond spent last week with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Parks Jennings.

Route One

Route One, June 26.- Ray Hudson, USN, is spending a 15-day leave here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Hudson. Others visiting in the home are L. J. Hudson and family, of Newport News.

Joinnie Rector, of V. M. I. spent the week-end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Rector.

Jack Marshall and family were dinner guests Sunday of his mother, Mrs. J. P. Marshall.

Miss Eleanor Chilton, of Lynchburg visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Will Chilton over the week-end.

Mrs. Bitzer, who has been visiting her aunts, Mrs. Jim Marshall and Mrs. Mike Johnson has returned to her home in Wheeling, W. Va.

Shelton Hudson, who now lives in Crewe, is ill at this writing.

The Susan Haar H. D. Club wishes to thank the neighbors and friends for helping to make their lawn party a success last Saturday night.

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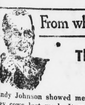

From where I sit ... *by* Joe Marsh

The Cow That Can't "Run Dry"

Sandy Johnson showed me his brassy cows last week. It was a warm day and they were all under the trees near a watering trough.

And darned if one cow wasn't pumping water into the trough! As a fact—she'd raise the pump handle with her nose, and use her weight to push it down again.

"That's Mabel," Sandy explained as she moved away. "Sometimes my drink that trough dry, and she's learned how to fill it again. But she doesn't know her own strength—turns the place into a swamp if we don't watch her."

From where I sit, Mabel isn't the only one who sometimes doesn't know where to stop. For instance, people often carry personal opinions too far—like the person who wants everyone to accept his choice of political parties, or ball-players . . . or beverages. I prefer a glass of beer with my meals. I know that a lot of other people prefer milk. But nobody ought to insist on "herding" others around to his way of thinking.

Joe Marsh

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